



Resources for Researching California Native Americans

California History Room
California State Library

California Indian Library Collections (CILC)

- Consists of unpublished manuscripts and field notes, scholarly articles, historical photographs, sound recordings of songs and dances
- Describes Native American tribal groups that inhabit, or have traditionally inhabited, northern and central California.
- Bibliographies online at <http://www.mip.berkeley.edu/cilc/bibs/toc.html>
- Use the State Library's online catalog to search for items in the collections

Searching the book catalog

Online at <http://www.lib.state.ca.us>

- Subject heading: Indians of North America—California
- Narrower subjects:
 - Names of tribes
 - Specific counties: e.g. Indians of North America—California—Alameda County
 - Specific history or culture aspects

California Information File

Created at the California State Library, the California Information File is an index to many sources of California history, including newspaper articles, magazine articles, manuscript collections, and books, covering dates from the 1850's through present. The original card file was closed in 1985, and the index has been continued on a computer database.

- General subject headings for the card file (consult headings binders for exact terms):
 - Indians—(many subheadings A-Z)
 - Indians (localities)
 - Indians (tribes) by name
- Search database by keywords

Vertical file

- Subjects—Indians—General
- Subjects—Indians—Governmental relations

Photo collection

- Card index: Subjects—Indians (includes individuals by name)
- Online picture catalog: Indians of North America—California

Special censuses

- Census of California Indian tribes, 1900-1907. C. E. Kelsey.
v. 1. Summary, with tables. v. 2. Census, by town and county, with location,
affiliation, and numbers of Indians.
[CILC] K47 C4 1907
- Census of non-reservation California Indians, 1905-1906. C. E. Kelsey.
Closed stacks E78 C15 K4
- Census roll of the Indians of California under the Act of May 18, 1928
Closed stacks [f] E78.C15 U43 1930, also on microfilm

Note: The Dawes Rolls are available on microfilm in the Government Publications Section.

Sherman Institute records

- Off-reservation boarding school for Native American children in Riverside. Officially opened in 1903 and drew students from all over the West.
- Student registers, employee registers, yearbooks, newsletters, brochures
- On microfilm
- Search online catalog

Key reference works

- *Handbook of North American Indians*, vol. 8—California. Robert F. Heizer, volume ed.
Washington: Smithsonian Institution, 1978.
Reference shelves E78.C15 C27 1978
- *Handbook of the Indians of California*. A. L. Kroeber. Berkeley: California Book Company, [1953]
Reading room 970.4 K93
- *The California Indians: a source book*. Compiled and edited by R. F. Heizer and M. A. Whipple. 2d ed., rev. and enl. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1971.
Reading room E78.C15 H4 1971
- *Tribes of California*. Stephen Powers. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1976. Reprint. Originally published: Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877.
Reading room E78.C15 P68 1976b
- *California Indians: Primary Resources, A Guide to Manuscripts, Artifacts, Documents, Serials, Music, and Illustrations*. Sylvia Brakke Vane and Lowell John Bean. Menlo Park: Ballena Press, 1990)
Reading room E78.C15 B37 1990

Government reports

Documents and reports by the federal government, state agencies, and local governments can be found in the State Library's Government Publications Section.